GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3731
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2002
IMPORT OF SUBSTANDARD PRODUCTS
MAHESHWAR SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian markets are flooded with sub-standard import products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to initiate a drive to check this menace;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures proposed to be taken to do away with dumping cheap quality goods in Indian markets?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (e) : In the post WTO scenario, the domestic industry has to bear with competition from imports. However, to reduce the impact on domestic industry, Government has taken the following measures :-

(i) The imports are closely monitored through the appropriate use of tariff and non-tariff mechanism;

(ii) Import duties on a number of items have been increased;

(iii) Suo-moto anti dumping investigations have been initiated in respect of import of battery cells, battery operated toys and sports shoes from China.

(iv) Import of all packaged commodities are subject to compliance with the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodity) Order, 1977;

(v) Import of 135 products has been made subject to the compliance of the mandatory Indian Quality Standards as applicable to domestic goods. Manufacturers of such products are accordingly required to obtain Certification from Bureau of Indian Standards; and

(vi) The Government has also introduced a Bill for amending the provisions of Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 so that Safeguard Action in the form of Quantitative Restrictions can be applied if the situation so warrants.